

## **Introduction to Seasonal Art and Nature Connections**

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Most of these activities can take place at any time during the year. I've categorized them according to seasons to emphasize being in sync with nature and attuned to the subtle and obvious changes we encounter as we encircle our sun every year. Celebrating each season, even if where you live the changes are not drastic, helps foster connections to our living earth. There are many art, literacy, science, math, and music connections you can create with the following ideas. Think of using all or as many of your senses as possible when exploring nature. Have your child retell what you did together at the end of the day, and create stories about your experiences to keep, revisit often, and treasure for years to come!! Thank you for spending time here with me and please contact me for questions and feedback!!

Special Thanks to my darling grandson, Jaxon, who took my hand and walked with me through so many special moments during our year together (20-21). Your three-year old enthusiasm for even the smallest things refreshed my heart. The photo on my Home page exemplifies the quality of our time together. Jaxon appears in many of these activity photos and is the artist of most of the examples.

Feel free to share these activities!! Use the Contact form to send questions and feedback, thank you!! I am contemplating collecting these experiences into a book at some point. Basically, these are not lesson plans, only suggestions. Please adapt and change as needed! Enjoy the experiences with your child(ren).

Some of the experiences I'm sharing are not using natural materials. It wasn't always possible to do that, but I tried, whenever possible, to use tools from nature. There are always connections to nature, though, in everything we do!!

Peace and Blessings to All who use these pages! Thank you for caring enough to find the best experiences for your child(ren)!! Fostering a connection with nature is very critical now more than ever. We need to take care of our planet and to do that, we need to know WE ARE NATURE!! Feeling a profound love of our environment and all the other creatures on this earth is the key to saving our future.

Thank you from my heart,

Marianne Bickett  
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Fritillary Butterfly, 2009, ©2021 Marianne Bickett